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Greenblum & Bernstein, PLC  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191

AUG 08 2007

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

In re patent of  
Juha Trinen et al  
Patent No. 6,988,745  
Issued: January 24, 2006  
For: GRIP FOR SPORTS POLE  
AND A SPORTS POLE  
HAVING SUCH GRIP

LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
AND NOTIFICATION OF IMPROPER  
PRIOR ART CITATION UNDER  
37 CFR 1.501

The prior art citation filed by the patent owner under 37 CFR 1.501 on June 29, 2006 has been received and reviewed by the Patent and Trademark Office. The requirements for a proper prior art citation under 37 CFR 1.501 are as follows:

A) Prior art submitted must be limited to "written prior art consisting of patents and publications". Any submission that contains any issue not directed to patents and publications will not be entered into the file and will be returned unconsidered, despite the fact that it may also contain "properly considerable" prior art. MPEP 2205.

B) An explanation of how the person submitting the prior art considers it to be pertinent and applicable to the patent and believes it to have a bearing on the patentability of any claim of the patent.

C) If filed by a party other than the patent owner, an indication must be present that a copy of the submission has been served on the patent owner, or includes a duplicate copy if service on the patent owner was not possible.

The prior art submission of June 29, 2006 lacks item B) above. The citation submitted lacks any explanation of how the patent owner considers the references to be pertinent and applicable to the patent and believes it to have a bearing on the patentability of any claim of the patent. Accordingly, the submission is hereby returned to the patent owner as an attachment to this Notification as per the procedure outlined in MPEP 2206.

Telephone inquiries relative to this letter should be directed to Special Programs  
Examiner Kenneth J. Dorner at (571) 272-6587.

*Katherine Matecki*

Katherine Matecki, Director  
Patent Technology Center 3600  
(571) 272-5250

*KJD*  
kjd: 7/16/07

Attachment: Citation of Patent in Patent File Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.501 filed June 29,  
2006